

5 PLAYER TRACKING COMMUNICATION MECHANISMS IN A
 GAMING MACHINE

 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10 A disclosed a player tracking unit provides a display, one or more illumination
 devices adjacent to the display and a logic device designed to control illumination of
 the illumination devices in a manner that visually conveys gaming information to an
 individual viewing the devices. A speaker may be also provided on the player tracking
 unit to aurally convey gaming information such as voice messages designed to inform
 or instruct the player in some manner. The player tracking unit may include a wireless
15 interface device designed or configured to allow player tracking information to be
 automatically downloaded from a portable wireless device carried by the player or
 player status information to be communicated to a casino service representative
 carrying a portable wireless device.